(ग) क्या काफी अधिक संख्या में ऐसी संपत्तियां अप्रयुक्त पड़ी हैं; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उनकी कुल संख्या कितनी है तथा तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज): (क) जी, हां। प्रसारण और कार्यक्रम निर्माण संबंधी परिसम्पत्तियों के गायब होने के चार मामलों की सूचना मिली है। संलिप्त व्यक्तियों के खिलाफ नियमों के तहत समुचित कार्रवाई की गई है।

(ख) जी, नहीं। यद्यपि संपत्ति सहायकों का संवर्ग एक मृतप्राय संवर्ग है तथा उन्हें बहुत से दूरदर्शन केन्द्रों पर तैनात नहीं किया जाता है तथापि, संपत्ति सहायकों का कार्य प्राय: ग्रेड-2 लिपिकों इत्यादि देखते हैं।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Rules/Criteria for Uplinking Facilities to Private Indian Satellite Channels

3024. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have worked out the details of rules/criteraia for providing uplinking facilities from India to Private Indian Satellite Channels as per news-item published in the H.T. dated 25.06.1998;

(b) whether the uplinking facility would be made available through VSNL; if so, in what manner foreign exchange savings are likely to be saved by India; and

(c) whether any selection of Private T.V. Companies amongst who have applied for this purpose has been made so far by Government?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir, this facility would, for the present, be available only through VSNL. Currently Indian satellite Channels are availing of such uplinking facilities from other countries where they are required to make the payments in foreign exchange. By going through VSNL, this outflow of foreign exchange would be saved, since payments to VSNL. would be in Indian Rupees.

(c) No, Sir. No selection is to be done by the Government. The Ministry of I&B would be issuing No Objection Certificate to eligible parties, on the basis of their applications, after which approvals would be given by the Wireless Programme Co-ordinator in the Ministry of Communications.

Uplinking of Foreign Satellite Channels

3025. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO:
SHRI K. M. KHAN:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to uplink foreign satellite channels very soon;

(b) if so, the details of background for such move;

(c) whether Government propose to take some steps ensuring this move will not damage the Indian Cultural Values in any way;

(d) whether this move will increase the revenues of Doordarshan;

(e) whether some formalities for uplinking foreign satellites channels have been prescribed; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Uplinking facility for eligible Indian Channels has already been permitted recently. It is contemplated that in due course the uplinking facility may also be considered for other channels, pending

the enactment of a Broadcasting Act. The Boradcasting Bill considered earlier by the Parliament had a provision for mandatory uplinking for all channels.

(c) Uplinking from India provides the possibility of stipulating guidelines for the programme content, and as such suitable provisions can be built in, as deemed essential.

(d) There is no direct connection between the two.

(e) and (f) Since a final decision has not been taken, these questions do not arise.

Broadcasting Tamil Programmes on F.M./Medium Wave

3026. SHRI V. P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the External Service Division (Tamil) of All India Radio, Delhi is broadcasting programmes in Tamil in short wave for the benefit of Tamil across the globe, particularly South-East Asian Countries.

(b) if so, whether Government will consider airing these programmes through F.M. and medium wave to benefit nearly 10 lakh Tamil living in and around Delhi; and

(c) if not, the difficulties in doing so?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) There is no proposal to air these programmes through F.M. and Medium Wave transmitters as the target audience of the Home Services and External Services are different. The services provided on the F.M. carrier and medium wave carrier cater to purely local audience in and around Delhi and reflect, by and large, the local issues and local concerns.

पौड़ी/अल्मोड़ा में आकाशवाणी केन्द्रों की क्षमता

3027. **श्री मनोहर कान्त ध्यानी:** क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पौड़ी और अल्मोड़ा में स्थित आकाशवाणी केन्द्रों की क्षमता केवल एक किलोवाट है;

(ख) क्या कम क्षमता वाले ट्रांसमीटरों के कारण इन केन्द्रों का उचित उपयोग नहीं किया जा रहा है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार उनकी प्रसारण क्षमता को बढ़ाने पर विचार कर रही है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो कब तक और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) जी, नहीं।

(ग) और (घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Expansion/Upgradation of TV Network in Orissa

3028. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for the expansion and upgradation of TV network in Orissa during the Ninth Plan;

(b) if so, the number of new TW Relay Centres proposed to be set up in that State;

(c) whether Government proposes to upgrade some LPT into HPT in that State during the Ninth Plan; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) Whereas Ninth Plan of Doordarshan is yet to be approved, 28 transmitters of varying power are presently under implementation in Orissa.

(c) Yes Sir.